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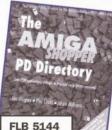
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Subscription Letter

Issue 68 November 1996



I am sad to say that you are now a member of a very exclusive club. With the market continuing to deteriorate, Amiga Shopper will no longer be able to take new subscriptions and so, as your subscription runs out, you will not be able to renew it. This is because there is little chance of another 12 issues of your favourite mag.

We shall be continuing for as long as possible and you will continue to get your mag until your subscription ends or we do, whichever is the former. You will then have the opportunity to take up a subscription with our sister magazine, Amiga Format.

If your subscription is coming to an end, then don't despair. You can still set a regular order for Amiga Shopper at your newsagents and that will guarantee that you don't miss out on a single issue.

On a happier note, we are still around so let's not dwell too much on the future, but on the present which is looking pretty good for serious users. There has been no let up in new releases of both hardware and software and you can read the definitive reviews, as usual, in the main magazine. The Coverdisk is jammed with some top quality stuff, but there wasn't room for the usual smaller utilities so you lucky subscribers have this month's pick on your exclusive disk. Turn over for details of the disks contents and remember, chin up.

Regards

Deputy Editor

See back page for special offers

Subscribers

David Taylor introduces this month's Subscribers disk which has the very best in new software from the Amiga PD.

his month's disk has got some real treats in store for you. There's a new version of SysSpeed, the system tester and of LCDDaemon the software for the LCD hardware project which we ran in AS64 and which proved so popular. Then there's a 3D object for Imagine and on the disk itself an example rendering of it in JPEG form and, to top it all off, another six useful utilities.

SysSpeed

Other speed testers which are used for measuring the capabilities of your system can be very incorrect. Their results are either spurious or not really very revealing about the system. SysSpeed reckons to change all this and allows you to create complete modules of tests so that you can compare machines. In addition to doing standard CPU rating tests, there are various optional tests based on real software so

that, assuming you have the programs, you can get results from graphics packages and archivers to see how well your machine operates under real situations.

The testing doesn't stop with the CPU and can be used to check all of the system including disk speeds.

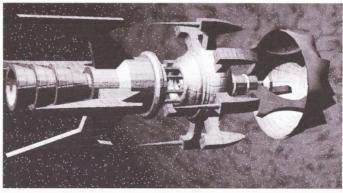
TinyPlayer

This is a very small and compact module player which can play a variety of file formats including the brand new OctaMED Soundstudio format. It handles Med files, files packed with PowerPacker, files crunched with XPK and much more.

Clip History

The clipboard is a useful facility that allows you to copy and paste text around an application. Whenever you copy a piece of text in an application it is placed as a temporary item in the clipboard for you to





This is a rendering of the Lost object.
The picture is on the Subs disk itself in the Picture directory and the object is in the third Subs Zone.

use. However, we always want more and complain that there is only a single clipboard and that, while there is no technical reason against it, we can normally only hold one item in memory. Also a item copied to the clipboard in one application is not necessarily available to be pasted in another.

Clip History solves both of these problems and gives you an interface which can be brought up with a hotkey so that you can choose which item you want to paste. It expands a useful feature into an invaluable one.

Ultra Pay Advice

This application is a brand new version of Pay Advice and allows you to enter all your pay details every month so you can keep track of them and ensure that you are not paying too much tax and that you have been paid the correct amount. It is extremely easy to use and you should be able to get your pay in order very quickly.

XFD

This package requires installing and it allows you to unpack any packed file using just one single command. Normally you would have to know exactly what form of file you were working with and have the appropriate unpacker to be able to do any work on it. Now all you need is this package with its set of custom libraries and use the xfd decrunch command (there are also other commands for other functions included). You select the filename and destination and it will be automatically unpacked. Wildcards are accepted so you

can scan the entire directory. For example, Xfddecrunch df0:#? Ram: will try every file on df0: and unpack any packed ones to ram:. This is especially useful for packed data files or documents that you want to work with but were unable to load.

LCDDaemon

In AS64 we ran a special DIY hardware project that showed you how to create a liquid crystal display that your Amiga could control and use to display pertinent information that may not be able to be displayed on the screen. This is the latest release of the software and if you don't have issue 64, don't worry because the instructions for building it are included in the package.

And the rest...

Also included on the disk are a set of macros for Final Writer a new object for Imagine users, called Lost and created by T Coleman, and a utility called CyberMap which CyberStorm owners can use to speed up the performance of their cards.

Installation

To install your Subscribers disk, you can boot it; but you'll have to have your main Coverdisks at hand because the Subscriber's disk needs a few files from them. If you have a hard drive, you can install everything from the three disks by loading Workbench and using the script on the first Coverdisk. Remember that after installing the disks, you may still need to install individual programs from their drawers.